

# The Rebellion Crier

Newsletter of 16<sup>th</sup> Virginia, Co D. and 41<sup>st</sup> Virginia, Co F  
Volume 2, Number 3 – Aug 31, 2007

## A Letter from the Colonel



Attention  
Brigade!

At ease!

I hope that  
my words find  
each and  
everyone of  
you safe and  
in good  
health. The

summer heat has taken its toll on our great state! It is bad enough we have to keep it safe from the vile Yankee - now it is the weather. Keep your canteens full and stay out of the sun as much as possible. Do not allow the heat to take your mind off our true enemy! I would like to thank everyone from the 16th and the 41st for coming out to Saint Lukes in Smithfield earlier this month. The camp looked great, as were the drills. The church was very happy with our program. The church treated us very good. The weather was perfect for a change!! This is one place we may return to someday. Next, as you know, is Chesapeake Civil War Days. This will be the last one at the library. It will be at a new site next year. Please do not forget to give Captain Dufresne \$5. He has, as in the past, sent the money in advance!! Where else can you get 2 breakfasts and 1 evening dinner, plus snacks, bottled water and coffee all weekend? Plus, we are treated very well. I look forward to going there. Also PLEASE BRING YOUR BLUE GEAR FOR THE FIGHTS!!!!!!!!!! We are needed, as in the past, to do blue. Cedar Creek is around the corner. This means we will have elections for the Battalion and nominations for Brigade Officers

and NCOs as well. If all goes well, I hope to let the 41st have their own company! Please think who you want to lead you for 2008. Speaking of 2008, Ron, Tim, Mark and I met with the commanders of the ANV, USV and the county at Anna's Pizza last Saturday. All went well. The 145th Chancellorsville is a go!! We have a lot of work to do to get there. The event will be April 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, 2008. This will be a 3 day event. The Isle of Wight School system will be supporting the event by bringing the kids on Friday for living history and the battle of Salem Church. We pulled it off this year! I know we will do it again with everyone's help. Well I will close for now. I look forward to seeing everyone soon. Until then KEEP YOUR HEADS DOWN BOYS!!!

I remain your obedient servant,  
sirs!

Colonel Billy Smith

## A letter from Captain Pierce

Well guys, I would like to thank every one for coming out to St. Lukes. It was a good day for a living history. I think it went well. As always, every one looked good.

Now on to Chesapeake Civil War days. Its in a week and I don't have to tell you, but I will, don't forget to bring your blue as we will be fighting blue, but camping gray. Hope to see you there

Well until next time,

Your obedient servant

Capt. Ron Pierce  
16<sup>th</sup> VA. Co. D

## **A letter from Captain Dufresne**

Gentlemen!

Greetings from the Captain. It's been a while since the last letter. Those that missed Dixie Days and St. Lukes Church missed a good time. You didn't miss the storm that passed through at Dixie Days but it did cool things down a bit. The battles were good again this year. The Saturday night attack on us was a lot of fun. The Saturday night meal was real good. The Battalion voted to attend this event again next year. On to St. Lukes Church. This was a one day event for us, we were fed lunch, and there was water in coolers for us also. The weather was perfect that day for wearing grey. The church was beautiful to see. Our next event is Chesapeake in two weeks. Most everyone has been e-mailed about the event but again I will say this is the LAST one for the library. It's been a great 15 year run for them. I think I only missed one event in 15 years there because I was out of town working. Breakfast by McDonalds Saturday and Sunday, Saturday night meal, open kitchen as they have always done. Real firewood, not trees like last year. There may be some surprises by the Library. Again setup time is after 5pm. All those coming remember to pay me when you get there, which is \$5.00 The 41st will be a Provost company at this event. Ya'll will have plenty to do. We will have a company meeting during the weekend. Our Colonel gave me the good news that the 41st will be Color Company at Cedar Creek. We will go on the field as a company. I would like to say congrats to Ken, he gets to sew his stripes on his jackets. Great job to Captain Pierce and the 16th on the past

events. Remember men we are now a bigger family of brothers. Looking forward to the 61st becoming part of us. Looking forward to seeing all at the next one.

Yours in Service

Capt. Armand Dufresne  
41<sup>st</sup> VA. CO. F

## **From the desk of the Quartermaster**

Well, the process of putting together the next event in Isle of Wight Co. has begun. This next event will have about twice the numbers as we had last year. I have spent a lot of time this summer putting together an inventory of all of the company equipment. The list is almost complete but I still have to assign a value to each item. Also, at Cedar Creek this year, I should have a form to fill out so we can issue any company equipment to anyone who wants or need it. We must be able to keep up with all of our equipment. Any members that have been around for a while know that there have been lots of items that were given out in good faith and were never seen again. I think at the very least that no equipment should be given to anyone unless it goes through me, and that the person that is receiving this item should be a dues paying member! I am open to any and all ideas about this matter that any members may have. All of this equipment belongs to every member.

See you at the next event!

Quartermaster Sgt. Tim Downey

## **2007 Schedule**

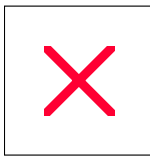
Sept 8th - 9th - Chesapeake Civil War Days

Oct 19th - 21st - Cedar Creek ANV Max event

Nov 3rd - 4th - Fort Branch, NC

Dec 8th - 9th - Christmas event. IWC

## Virginia Civil War Biographies Page



### Major General William Mahone

Major General William Mahone was born at Monroe, Southampton County, Va., December 1, 1826. His family in Virginia was descended from an Irish progenitor of the Colonial period. Both his grandfathers served in the war of 1812, and his father commanded a Militia regiment during the Nat Turner insurrection. He was graduated at the Virginia military institute in 1847, after which he taught two years at the Rappahannock military academy. He then entered upon a career as civil engineer in which he became distinguished, engaging in the construction of new railroads in Virginia, notably the Orange & Alexandria and Norfolk & Petersburg lines. Overcoming obstacles that had been pronounced insuperable in the construction of the latter line, he subsequently became president of the railroad company. He then conceived his great project of consolidating various roads into a system from Norfolk to Bristol, Tenn., with the ultimate object of extending connections to the Mississippi and to the Pacific coast. But these enterprises were brought to a sudden check by the Political events of

1860-61. He promptly offered his services to Virginia, was commissioned lieutenant-colonel, and soon promoted colonel of the Sixth Virginia regiment. Serving first at Norfolk, he was promoted brigadier-general November 16, 1861. After serving in the defense of Drewry's bluff, he fought his brigade in Huger's division at Seven Pines, where his men and Armistead's struck the enemy a telling blow on the second day. He participated in the Seven Days' battles before Richmond, and in Anderson's division of Longstreet's corps conducted his brigade into action at the battle of Second Manassas with conspicuous gallantry, receiving a severe wound which prevented his participation in the Maryland campaign, though his famous brigade was distinguished in the valorous defense of the South mountain passes. Returning to his command, he served through the succeeding struggles on the Rappahannock and in Pennsylvania, and during the first day's fighting in the Wilderness was entrusted with the command of his own, Wofford's, Anderson's and Davis' brigades, in an attack on the flank and rear of Grant's advance, which rolled Hancock's command back in confusion and promised to repeat the victory of Chancellorsville, when Longstreet fell, as Jackson had fallen on the former field. When his division commander was called to fill Longstreet's place, Mahone was given command of Anderson's division, and Longstreet added his voice to that of A. P. Hill in recommending the promotion of the dashing infantry chieftain. As a division commander, though without the official rank, he was distinguished in a successful attack upon Hancock, May 10th, and the severe repulse and almost capture of a portion of Warren's corps on the North Anna.

Before Petersburg, he brilliantly defended the Weldon railroad, and at the time of the breaking of the Confederates lines by the explosion of a mine, July 30th, his division to the relief of Gen. Bushrod Johnson's men, he was especially distinguished. Moving promptly with he engaged in repeated desperate charges, which finally resulted in the utter repulse and terrible slaughter of the enemy. Here the tardy promotion arrived, he being promoted major-general on the field by General Lee, which was promptly confirmed by the President and Congress. Of Mahone's part in the battle of the Crater, Col. W. H. Stuart, of the Sixty-first Virginia, has said: "The whole movement was under his immediate and personal, direction, and to him, above all, save the brave men who bore the muskets, belong the honor and credit of recapturing the Confederate lines." To the last he held his men together in a remarkably spirited and unified organization, which was inspired with a strong esprit du corps, and distinguished for readiness to take all chances in either defense or assault. He surrendered at Appomattox, and returned to the railroad management from which he had been called four years before. Becoming president of the two lines extending from Petersburg to Bristol, Tenn., he consolidated the three companies into the Atlantic, Mississippi & Ohio railroad company, which he managed until the financial crisis of 1873, when a foreign combination gained control and the system became known later as the Norfolk & Western. Though defeated in this great enterprise he managed that upon the sale of the lines \$500,000 was paid to the State of Virginia for her claim, the whole amount of which he subsequently caused to be appropriated for educational purposes.

Before the close of the war General Mahone had served in the Virginia Senate in addition to his duties in the field, and during the reconstruction period he exerted a very powerful influence toward the comparatively peaceful restoration of home rule which was brought about in his State. In 1878 he was defeated in a contest for the Democratic nomination for governor. In 1879, under his leadership, the "Readjuster" party was formed in Virginia, which for a time controlled the State, and General Mahone was elected to the United States Senate, where he soon became identified with the Republican Party, which through his efforts carried the State elections in 1881. He led Virginia delegations to the Republican national conventions of 1884 and 1888, and in 1889 was nominated for governor by his party, but defeated. He continued to retain political leadership, and in his later years made his home at Washington, where he died October 8, 1895.

*Confederate Military History*, Vol. III, pp. 634-636.